

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 were pending in this application.

Claims 8-16 are allowed.

Claims 1 and 7 are amended, claim 6 is canceled, and claim 35 is added by the present amendment. No new matter is added in the amendment.

Accordingly, claims 1-5, 7-16, and 35 are pending in the subject application.

Applicants request reconsideration of the pending claims in light of the above claim amendment taken along with the following remarks.

Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1-3 and 5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ogura et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,388,293) for reasons recited in page 2 of the January 24, 2006 Final Office Action.

Applicants respectfully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 4, 6, and 7 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of their base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicants have added new claim 35 by incorporating the features of claim 4 into claim 1. Applicants have incorporated the features of claim 6 into claim 1, and claim 7 is amended to change its claim dependency resulting from the cancellation of claim 6.


Claims 2, 3 and 5 depend from claim 1. The dependent claims are allowable for at least the reasons provided for base claim 1.

Conclusion:

In summary, applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Early notice to that end is earnestly solicited.

If a telephone conference would be of assistance in furthering prosecution of the subject application, applicants request that the undersigned be contacted at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,



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